

Appl. No. 10/692,637
Amdt. dated 7/21/08
Reply to Office action of 1/29/08

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CLAIM AMENDMENTS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (previously presented). A spacer for a fuel assembly of a boiling water reactor, comprising:

a frame formed with outer webs and inner webs oriented crossways with respect to one another;

gills formed on an outer side of said outer webs and projecting outward to a given extent from said outer side;

a plurality of projections each formed by an outward bulge in a wall of said outer webs, said projections each having a lower edge extending to and being identical with a lower edge of a respective one of said outer webs and projecting outwardly to a greater extent than said given extent of said gills, said projections being disposed in a region of a respective said inner web; and

a deflector lug formed integrally on a lower edge of said projections.

Claim 2 (original). The spacer according to claim 1, wherein said projections are formed below said gills.

Claim 3 (canceled).

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Claim 4 (previously presented). The spacer according to claim 1, wherein said inner web has a lateral edge and a first supporting section integrally formed on and laterally projecting beyond said lateral edge, wherein said first supporting section extends into and is connected to said projection.

Claim 5 (original). The spacer according to claim 4, wherein said inner web has a lower edge and a second supporting section integrally formed on said lower edge, said second supporting section having an inclined edge and a deflector lug supported against said inclined edge.

Claim 6 (original). The spacer according to claim 4, wherein said projection has an outer side formed with a recess, said recess extends in an axial direction and having formed therein a slot with said first supporting section at least partially penetrating through said slot.

Claim 7 (new). The spacer according to claim 1, wherein said projections project outwardly to a greater extent than said given extent of said gills to prevent said gills from coming into contact with a channel of the fuel assembly.